
The
Nova Scotia Lodge of
Research

(Under Dispensation)

A. F. & A. M.

PETITION, DISPENSATION
DRAFT, BY-LAWS, ETC.



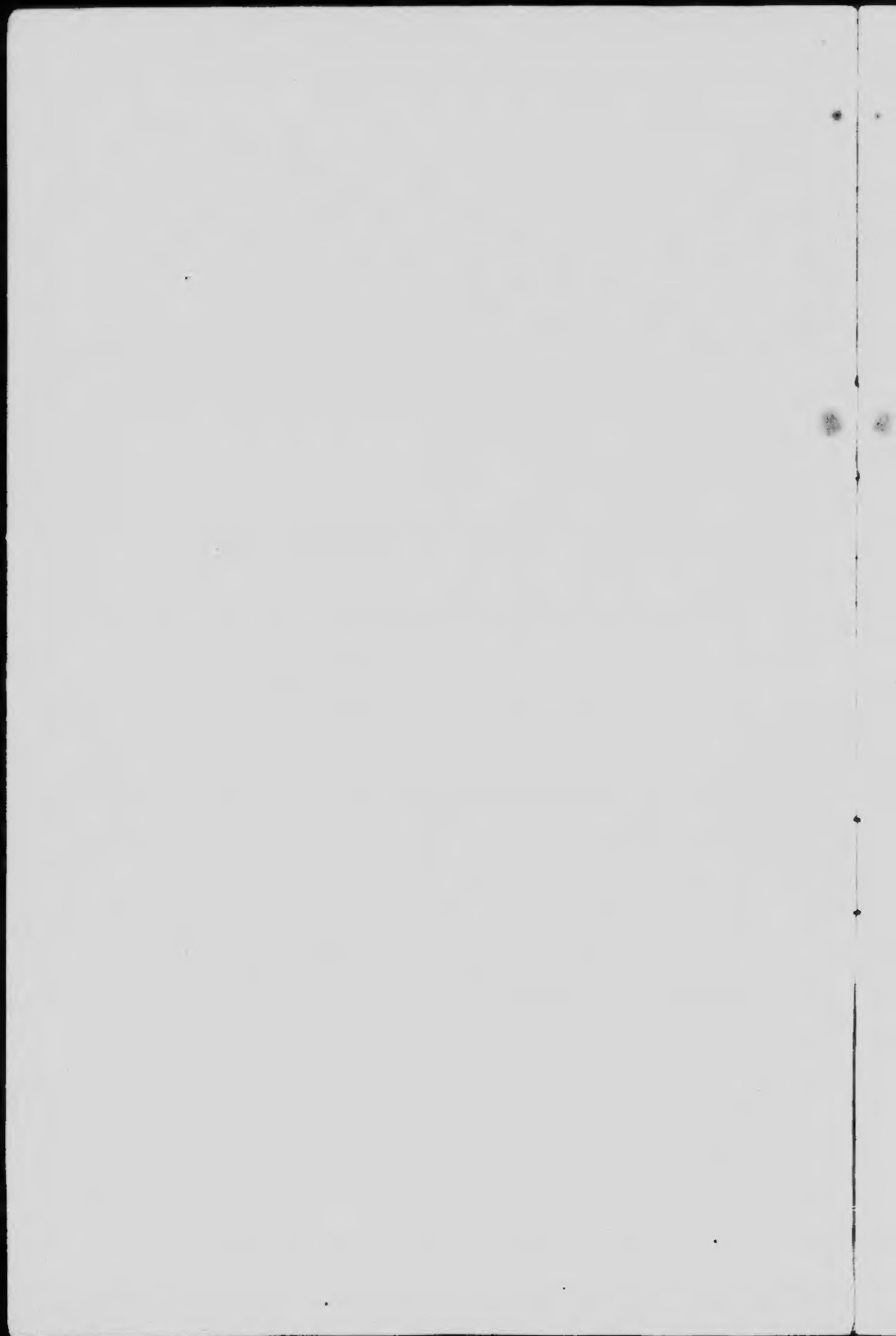
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**PETITION, DISPENSATION
DRAFT, BY-LAWS, ETC.**



DISPENSATION

To all whom it may concern.

Know ye, that we, Donald Fisher Fraser, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nova Scotia, having received a Petition from a Constitutional number of brethren who have been properly vouched for as Master Masons in good standing, setting forth that having the honor and prosperity of the Craft at heart, they are desirous of establishing a Lodge at Halifax, under our Masonic jurisdiction and requesting a Dispensation for the same.

And whereas, there appears good and sufficient cause for granting the prayer of the said Petition, We, by virtue of the powers in us vested by the Ancient Constitutions of the Order, do grant this our

DISPENSATION

Empowering Brother Theodore Augustus Cossmann, to act as Worshipful Master, Brother Charles Reynolds Smith to act as Senior Warden, and Brother William Medford Christie to act as Junior Warden of a Lodge to be held under our jurisdiction at Halifax, by the name of **The Nova Scotia Lodge of Research**. And we further authorize the said Brethren to Enter, Pass and Raise Free Masons according to the Ancient Constitutions of the Order, the Customs and Usages of the Craft, and the Rules and Regulations of the Most Worshipful **The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia**, and not otherwise. And this our Dispensation shall continue in force until the Grand Lodge aforesaid shall grant a Warrant of Constitution for the same, or this Dispensation be revoked by us or the authority of the aforesaid Grand Lodge.

Given under our hands and the Seal of the Grand Lodge at Halifax, this nineteenth day of November, A. L., 5915. —

(Sgd.) DONALD FISHER FRASER,
Grand Master.

(Seal.)

(Sgd.) THOMAS MOWBRAY,
Grand Secretary.

PETITION.
THE NOVA SCOTIA LODGE OF RESEARCH.

A. F. & A. M.

**Unto the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ancient,
Free and Accepted Masons of Nova Scotia.**

**THE PETITION of the undersigned regularly registered Master Masons of the Lodges mentioned against
our respective names.**

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

1. That your Petitioners, having the interest and good of Masonry at heart, propose the formation of a Lodge for the study of Masonic history and research, with the following objects:

- (a) To provide a centre and bond of union for Masonic students.
- (b) To attract and obtain the assistance, support and sympathy of all brother Masons desirous of obtaining further light and fuller information in Masonry, in order to imbue them with a love for Masonic research and knowledge.
- (c) To submit the discoveries or conclusions of students to the judgment and criticism of their fellows by means of papers read in Lodge.
- (d) To submit these communications and the discussions arising therefrom to the general body of the Craft by publishing from time to time the transactions of the Lodge in their entirety.
- (e) To tabulate concisely, in the printed Transactions of the Lodge information and statistics respecting Freemasonry and its progress.

- (f) To aid and assist in informing the members of the Craft in Nova Scotia respecting the true meaning of Masonry, its history and progress, by means of Masonic study and intercourse.
- (g) When practicable and convenient to reprint scarce and valuable works on Freemasonry and to publish such manuscripts as may be deemed advisable.
- (h) To undertake or, to assist in the compilation and publication of works dealing with the early history, progress and objects of Masonry in Nova Scotia, or elsewhere, and to print and circulate among the Craft such papers read before the Lodge as may be deemed advisable.
- (i) To facilitate the acquisition of a correct knowledge of Ritual and ceremonial, of the Government of Lodges and the general routine of Lodge business.
- (j) To study the Jurisprudence and Grand Lodge decisions and to compile and publish works respecting same.
- (k) To preserve publications, manuscripts and records respecting Freemasonry.
- (l) To establish and maintain a Masonic Library and reading room and Museum.
- (m) To edit and publish a Masonic journal or periodical publication.

2. It is proposed that such lodge shall consist of studious and well informed brethren sincerely desirous of furthering Masonry in this jurisdiction along such lines.

3. The Lodge will consist of Master Masons in good standing in their own Lodges, who must retain their membership in such Blue lodges, an amendment to the Constitution of Grand Lodge being made to meet the circumstances of this particular case.

4. The control of the Lodge and its affairs shall belong to the Active members of the Lodge.

5. In addition to the active members there shall be Associate or Corresponding members consisting of Master Masons whether in or without this jurisdiction who apply for

membership and pay the required annual dues, which shall entitle such Associate or Corresponding members to all the privileges of the Lodge including a copy of any publications issued during the year, but such members will not be entitled to hold office in the Lodge or vote at elections of office holders.

6. The Lodge will meet as a regularly tyled Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia but will abstain from initiating, passing and raising of candidates or the conferring of any degrees.

7. The funds of the Lodge shall be wholly devoted to Lodge and Literary purposes and no portion spent on refreshment.

8. It is proposed to ask the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia for an amendment to the Constitution permitting the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia for the time being to be for the term of his office ex officio a member and the Master of the Lodge, and enabling the members of said Lodge to elect a Deputy Master who shall have all the privileges and prerogatives of a Worshipful Master and be installed as such, and also that the Grand Historian be an active member of the Lodge.

9. It is also proposed to ask Grand Lodge for an amendment to the constitution exempting this Lodge, consisting of Master Masons belonging to other subordinate Lodges, from payment of dues to Grand Lodge and the Freemasons' Home.

10. A draft of the proposed special regulations or by-laws respecting this Lodge is annexed, which draft regulations, it is proposed, to submit for the approval of Grand Lodge, at its next meeting in June, 1916.

11. It is proposed to ask Grand Lodge at its next regular communication to legislate that wherever such constitution and the proposed constitution and regulations respecting this Lodge shall conflict, the latter shall govern.

12. The name of the Lodge, until the members thereof shall otherwise determine, and subject to the sanction of Grand Lodge, shall be "The Nova Scotia Lodge of Research,"
No. R. N. S.

13. We recommend and propose as the first office bearers of the Lodge the following Master Masons:

Worshipful Master—M. W., Theodore A. Cossmann,
P. G. M.

Senior Warden—M. W., Charles R. Smith, P. G. M.

Junior Warden—M. W., Wm. Medford Christie, P. G. M.

The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the Laws and Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

Name in full.	Name and No. of Lodge.	Where held.
T. A. Cossmann.....	The Lodge of St. Mark.	
	38.....	Halifax, N. S.
C. E. Puttner.....	Virgin Lodge, No. 3	"
Herbert Andrews.....	St. John Lodge, No. 2	"
J. H. Winfield.....	Virgin Lodge, No. 3	"
J. Plimsoll Edwards...	North Star, No. 74...	Londonderry.
J. Murray Lawson.....	Scotia No. 31.....	Yarmouth.
E. A. Harris.....	Charity No. 69.....	Mahone Bay.
W. M. Christie.....	Welsford, No. 26.....	Windsor.
Charles R. Smith.....	Acadia, No. 8.....	Amherst.
Reginald V. Harris...	St. Andrews, No. 1...	Halifax.

**DRAFT SPECIAL REGULATIONS
OR BY-LAWS
OF
NOVA SCOTIA LODGE OF RESEARCH, NO....
A. F. & A. M., R. N. S.**

ARTICLE I.

Names and Objects.

(1) This Lodge shall be known as the Nova Scotia Lodge of Research.

(2) The objects of this Lodge shall be:

- (a) To provide a centre and bond of union for Masonic students.
- (b) To attract and obtain the assistance, support and sympathy of all brother Masons desirous of obtaining further light and fuller information on Masonry, in order to imbue them with a love for Masonic research and knowledge.
- (c) To submit the discoveries or conclusions of students to the judgment and criticism of their fellows by means of papers read in Lodge.
- (d) To submit these communications and the discussions arising therefrom to the general body of the Craft, by publishing from time to time the transactions of the Lodge in their entirety.

- (e) To tabulate concisely in the printed Transactions of the Lodge information and statistics respecting Freemasonry and its progress.
 - (f) To aid and assist in informing members of the Craft in Nova Scotia respecting the true meaning of Masonry, its history and progress by means of Masonic study and intercourse.
 - (g) When practicable and convenient to reprint scarce and valuable works on Freemasonry and to publish such manuscripts as may be deemed advisable.
 - (h) To undertake, or assist in the compilation and publication of works dealing with the early history, progress and objects of Masonry in Nova Scotia, or elsewhere, and to print and circulate among the Craft such papers read before the Lodge as may be deemed advisable.
 - (i) To facilitate the acquisition of a correct knowledge of Ritual and Ceremonial, of the Government of Lodges and the general routine of Lodge business.
 - (j) To study the Jurisprudence and Grand Lodge decisions and to compile and publish works respecting same.
 - (k) To preserve publications, manuscripts and records respecting Freemasonry.
 - (l) To establish and maintain a Masonic Library and Reading Room and Museum.
 - (m) To edit and publish a Masonic Journal or periodical publication.
- (3) The Lodge, though possessing the power of conferring degrees will abstain from initiating, passing or raising candidates in Masonry, or the conferring of any degrees.

ARTICLE II.

Membership.

- (1) The membership of the Lodge shall be divided into two classes known as (a) Active Members; and (b) Associate Members, respectively.

(2) The Active Members of the Lodge, consisting of studious and well-informed brethren sincerely desirous of furthering Masonry in this jurisdiction, as indicated in the objects and purposes of this Lodge, or with a high literary, artistic or scientific qualification, shall have the entire management and control of the affairs of the Lodge under the provisions of the Constitution of Grand Lodge.

(3) Active members shall be selected and recommended by the Investigating Committee from among the list of Associate Members of the Lodge and upon such recommendation a ballot shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Grand Lodge.

(4) The Grand Master and Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia shall during their terms of office as Grand Master and Grand Historian respectively, be included without application or ballot as Active Members of the Lodge and be entitled to all privileges as such.

(5) Associate Members shall have all the rights and privileges of this Lodge except those of voting and holding office.

(6) Regular Masonic bodies and Grand Lodges may become Associate Members, but such membership shall not entitle members of said bodies or Lodges to any privileges in this Lodge.

(7) Petitions from Master Masons desirous of becoming Associate members of this Lodge shall be in the following form, recommended by two members:

FORM

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of
Nova Scotia Lodge of Research, No.....R. N. S.

I, the undersigned, a Master Mason of.....Lodge,
No..... under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of.....
respectfully petition for Associate membership in your Lodge.
If found worthy, I pledge myself to a cheerful obedience to
your Bylaws, and the ancient usages of Masonry as admitted
among you. My occupation is that of.....
My residence is.....

Witness my hand the day of A. D. 19
Recommended by

.....
(The Applicant to sign his name in full).

(8) An Investigating Committee, composed of three Active members, whose duty it shall be to enquire into, and report upon the character and qualifications of all Master Masons seeking admission to this Lodge shall be appointed by the Master annually at the regular meeting in June.

(9) Unless required by some Active Member of the Lodge, or recommended by the Investigating Committee, or directed by the Master, it shall not be necessary to ballot on the petition of any Master Mason applying for Associate Membership in the Lodge, and the Master, or other member presiding in his absence shall, after report by the Investigating Committee, and in the absence of any such requisition, recommendation or direction, direct the Secretary to enroll such applicant as an Associate member of the Lodge.

(10) Membership in this Lodge shall not in any way affect the standing or privileges of any member in any other subordinate Lodge under the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

(11) Any member desirous of withdrawing from the Lodge must apply at a regular meeting personally, or by letter addressed to the Secretary, to be read in open Lodge, and shall thereupon be entitled to a dimit, provided he is in good standing, and clear of all indebtedness on the books. The application must lie on the table for one month, unless the necessity of the case requires immediate action.

(12) No member of this Lodge shall make use of Masonic emblems, either on sign-boards or business cards, or in any way seek to extend his business by the use thereof, except by consent of the Lodge. This is not, however, to apply to Masonic jewellery worn by a brother, nor to authorised Masonic books, jewels or clothing intended for sale.

ARTICLE III.

Committees, Officers and their Duties.

(1) The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia shall during the term of his office be *ex officio* the Master of this Lodge.

(2) (a) In addition to the officers of the Lodge as required by the Constitution of Grand Lodge, the Lodge shall elect one of its members to preside over the Lodge in the absence of the Grand Master; the member so elected shall be known as the Deputy Master.

(b) In order that there may at all times be a presiding officer of the Lodge resident in Halifax, the Deputy Master shall, whenever the Grand Master is not a resident of Halifax, be a resident of that City.

(c) Wherever in these by-laws the Master of the Lodge is referred to, it shall be taken to include the Deputy Master.

(3) The officers of this Lodge shall be elected annually at the regular June meeting in each year, and installed at the same meeting, but inasmuch as this is not a working Lodge, in a Masonic sense, the usual and customary installation ceremonies may be dispensed with and such other and special form of ceremony be held as the Lodge may decide, so long as the same is not contrary to or subversive of Masonry.

(4) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to make and keep an accurate record of the proceedings of every Lodge Meeting, transmit a copy of the same to the Grand Secretary, if required; keep true and correct accounts between the Lodge and the members, receive all moneys belonging to and due the Lodge, paying the same immediately to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor. He shall make out all documents, notify the members of all meetings, advise the Chairman of all committees, with the names of his associates; inform all persons of their election to the Lodge, and attest to all orders drawn on the Treasurer by vote of the Lodge, or by order of the Worshipful Master or Deputy Master. He shall also prepare the Annual Returns for Grand Lodge at the proper time, and at the expiration of his term of office, submit his report to the Lodge. It is also his duty, immediately after the installation of officers, to forward, under seal, to the banking institution in which the Lodge funds are deposited, the names of the newly installed Worshipful Master, Deputy Master, Wardens and Treasurer.

(5) The Seal of this Lodge shall be in charge of the Secretary and must be impressed on all official documents.

(6) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive from the Secretary all moneys belonging to the Lodge, giving his receipt for the same; he shall pay all orders drawn on him by the Worshipful Master, or Deputy Master, and shall deposit in some chartered banking institution all money he may have in his hands over and above fifteen dollars, which deposit shall be made in the name of The Nova Scotia Lodge of Research, and shall be withdrawn only by cheque signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the Worshipful Master or Deputy Master.

(7) A Committee composed of three members, for the purpose of auditing the books and accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer, shall be appointed at the regular meeting in June.

(8) The Master may appoint such other standing and special Committees as may be necessary from time to time for the carrying on of the affairs of the Lodge.

(9) The Tyler, who shall not be required to be a member of the Lodge, shall attend all Lodge meetings, or find a proper substitute to be approved of by the Worshipful Master.

ARTICLE IV.

Lodge Meetings.

(1) (a) Unless otherwise ordered by the Master the regular meetings of this Lodge, shall be held at Freemasons' Hall, in the City of Halifax on the fourth Thursday of January, March, September and November in each year, the hour of meeting to be 8 o'clock p. m., unless specially summoned at any other hour, of which the usual notice shall be given.

(b) In addition, a regular meeting shall be held in June of each year, immediately following the close of Grand Lodge and wherever Grand Lodge may be held, notice thereof being given during the then session of Grand Lodge.

(c) Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Master on his own motion, or at the request of five Active Members, from calling additional Regular or Emergency Meetings of this Lodge at such time and place as he may decide, of which the usual notice shall be given.

(2) As near as practicable, and at the discretion of the Master, the following shall be the order of business:

Opening.

Reading and approving Minutes.

Reports of Investigating Committee.

Balloting for new Members.

Receiving Petitions.

New or Special business.

Closing.

ARTICLE V.

Fees and Dues.

(1) The entrance fee for Active Membership shall be \$10 and for Associate Membership \$2.00 and said amounts must accompany the application and shall pay all dues and fees from applicant for the remainder of the current year ending the following May 31st.

(2) Each Active and Associate member shall pay the sum of one dollar annually in advance.

(3) The Lodge shall be exempt from the payment of fees and dues to Grand Lodge or to the Masonic Home under the provisions of the Constitution of Grand Lodge.

(4) The funds of the Lodge shall be wholly devoted to Lodge and Literary purposes and no portion thereof shall be devoted to refreshment or charity.

ARTICLE VI.

(1) (a) No additions or amendments shall be permitted to these By-laws except with the consent of two-thirds of the Active members present at a regular meeting; special notice of intention so to alter, amend or expunge having been given in writing at a previous regular meeting, and likewise inserted in the summons to the members.

(b) Such additions or amendments so made shall not be of any force or effect until approved of by the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

The Following Resolution

WAS PASSED by the following Lodges at Halifax and Dartmouth, on the following dates and a certified copy forwarded with the Petition to the Grand Master, as required by the Constitution:

St. Andrews, No. 1.....	Oct. 5th,	1915.
St. John, No. 2.....	Oct. 4th,	"
Virgin, No. 3.....	Oct. 25th,	"
Royal Sussex, No. 6.....	Oct. 7th,	"
Burns, No. 10.....	Oct. 6th,	"
Acadia, No. 14.....	Nov. 8th,	"
Athole, No. 15.....	Oct. 13th,	"
Keith, No. 17.....	Oct. 14th,	"
Lodge of St. Mark, No. 38.....	Oct. 8th,	"
Eastern Star, No. 51.....	Oct. 12th,	"

Being all of the Lodges R. N. S. at Halifax and Dartmouth.

"RESOLVED that this Lodge, having learned of the proposal to establish at Halifax a new Lodge to be known as the "Nova Scotia Lodge of Research" and being satisfied as to the proficiency of the proposed Master M. W. Bro. T. A. Cossmann and the Wardens of the new Lodge, M. W. Bros. C. R. Smith and W. M. Christie, hereby vouch as required by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia that the said Master and Wardens are capable of conferring degrees and conducting the ordinary business of the Lodge in a proper and constitutional manner, and are fit and proper persons to hold the offices assigned to them, and hereby approve of the purposes and objects of said proposed Lodge and recommend that the prayer of the Petition of the Brethren be complied with and that a Dispensation and Charter be granted such new Lodge at Halifax in the County of Halifax.

"AND FURTHER that the Worshipful Master, and Secretary be authorized to sign a recommendation to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge to this effect and to affix thereto the seal of this Lodge."

Public Archives of Nova Scotia
HALIFAX, N. S.